

## In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Denise C. Tears et al.

Docket No.: 16870A

Serial No.:

10/080,888

Group No.: 3761

Confirmation No.: 9388

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Examiner:

Unknown

Filed:

February 22, 2002

Date:

July 24, 2003

For:

AN ABSORBENT ARTICLE FOR ABSORBING BODY FLUIDS

Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Before First Office Action or Within Three Months of Filing Date

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. BOX 1450 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicants are today filing an Information Disclosure Statement in multiple parts consisting of one electronic submission of U.S. patents and/or U.S. published applications and one paper submission of other documents being sent via first class U.S. mail.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97 et seq., Applicants, through and by their attorneys, hereby wish to direct the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the attached modified PTO Form 1449 and the copies of those documents presented herewith for the Examiner's review and convenience.

U.S. Patent 4,215,692 is believed to be an English language equivalent of French Patent 2 423 171 and is being provided in lieu of a translation of FR 2 423 171.

By inclusion of any given document in this Information Disclosure Statement, Applicants in no way admit that such document is effective as prior art against the above-identified application under either 35 U.S.C. 102 or 35 U.S.C. 103.

Additionally, submission of any document is not to be taken as an admission of the materiality of the document to the prosecution of the present application.

The Examiner is requested to review each cited document and personally determine its prior art status.

Applicants recommend that the Examiner conduct an independent search for any and all available material prior art and independently review the results of such search and the documents cited within this Statement.

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Applicants request the Examiner, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, to indicate and make of record receipt and review of all of these documents by initialing the appropriate box in the accompanying PTO-1449. Applicants request that the undersigned receive a copy of the initialed PTO-1449.

If the Examiner refuses to consider any or all of the herein submitted materials because it is the Examiner's opinion that this Information Disclosure Statement is not in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner notify the undersigned, in writing, as to the basis of such opinion.

Please charge any prosecutional fees which are due to Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc. deposit account number 11-0875.

The undersigned may be reached at: 920-721-2455.

Respectfully submitted,

DENISE C. TEARS ET AL.

By:

Thomas J. Connelly

Registration No.: 28,404



## List of Patents and Publications for Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant(s): Denise C. Tears et al.

Docket No.: 16870A

Serial No.:

10/080,888

Group:

3761

Filed:

February 22, 2002

Examiner:

Unknown

			U.S.	Patent Documents				
Initials		Doc. No.	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing	g Date
•	A1	4,215,692	08/1980	Levesque				
	A2							
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	A2	FR 2 423 171	11/1979	France				
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with your next communication.

Examiner:

**Date Considered:** 

Form PTO-1449 (Modified)